GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:464
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
HIKING CABLE CHARGES
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the effective measures are proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the Doordarshan subscribers from the arbitrations of cable operators;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints to this effect against the cable operators of big cities, towns and rural areas; and

(c) if so, the reasons due to which Government have failed to keep a control on them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a), (b) & (c): The Cable Networks Regulation Act, 1995 provides for AuthorisedOfficers, which include, District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Commissioner of Police, within their local limits of jurisdiction, and other officers notified by Central Government or State Governments to take action against CableOperators for violations of the provisions of the Act. It is the constant endeavour of Prasar Bharati to obtain compliance of the provisions of the Act, with regard to compulsory transmission of the notified Doordarshan Channels. Although instances of non-compliance have come to notice, Doordarshan is carrying out an awareness campaign to make people aware of their rights. The government had also taken up the matter with State Governments to ensure that the notified officers ensure compliance by Cable Operators in this regard. Doordarshan has informed that they are meeting Cable Operators at regular intervals to monitor the Doordarshan channels being carried by the Cable Operators.